

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1, 18, 19 and 21 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-17 and 20 are canceled.

Response after final

Applicant's remarks and amendment to the claims filed on 02/6/2008 are acknowledged. The previously made 112 enablement rejection on claim 20 is withdrawn in view of the deletion of the claim.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Susan Mack on 02/28/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, page 2, line 6, delete "containing" and insert ---consisting of--- after the word aryl.

In claim 19, page 4, line 2, delete "and/" before the word or.

In claim 20, page 4, line 1, insert ---The--- before the word 8-azaprostaglandin.

Reasons for Allowance

The present invention is directed to 8-azaprostaglandin compounds of formula (I-a1-1), depicted in claim 1, wherein Ya is S or SO₂ and U3a-1 is a carbocyclic ring.

Art Unit: 1626

The closest prior art of record is U.S. Pat. No. 6,552,067B2 (Cameron et al.), which teaches wherein Ya is oxygen and U3a-1 is an alkyl moiety with a hydroxyl substituent, but does not teach or provide the requisite motivation to make the instantly claimed compounds, wherein Ya is S or SO₂ and U3a-1 is a carbocyclic ring via an oxygen linker.

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susannah Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-6098. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on (571) 272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SLC, 2/28/2008

/Joseph K McKane/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1626